

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COTONO 00818 051411Z
ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CA-01 L-03 HA-05 /026 W
-----075746 051413Z /43

P 051300Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 800

C O N F I D E N T I A L COTONOU 818

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CASC, DM
SUBJ: W/W: LEONARD RICHARD BENNETT

REF: A. COTONOU 872 B. COTONOU 801

1. EMBASSY RECEIVED NOTE JUNE 2 FROM GOV'T OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BENIN (GPRB) FORMIN ACKNOWLEDGING EMBASSY'S NOTES 51 AND 53 OF APRIL 27 AND MAY 3 RESPECTIVELY CONCERNING THE HEALTH OF LEONARD RICHARD BENNETT. NOTE STATES THAT "THE COMPETENT BENINESE AUTHORITIES COMMISSIONED A TEAM OF BENINESE MEDICAL SPECIALISTS AND GENERALISTS TO EXAMINE THE HEALTH OF MR. RICHARD LEONARD BENNETT (SIC). THE RESULTS OF THE MEDICAL MISSION HAVE MADE IT POSSIBLE TO CONCLUDE THAT CLINICAL AND RADIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS DO NOT PUT THE PATIENTS LIFE IN DANGER."

2. NOTES CONTINUES TO SAY THAT AS FURTHER INFO RELATING TO BENNETT'S DETENTION INVESTIGATIONS ARE UNDERWAY AND THAT THE MINISTRY WILL DEFINITELY INFORM THE EMBASSY AS SOON AS IT IS AWARE OF THE OUTCOME OF THIS MATTER.

3. COMMENT: THIS IS FIRST COMMUNICATION THAT EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED FROM GPRB ON BENNETT CASE AND COMES AS DIRE&T FOLLOW-UP TO MEETING BETWEEN DEP ASST SEC HARROP AND ACTING FORMIN ATCHADE. WHILE NOTESTATES SOMEWHAT ELIPTICALLY THAT BENINESE DOCTORS TO NOT AGREE WITH CONCLUSIONS OF EXAMINATION
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BY STATE DEPARTMENT DOCTOR, IT CONTAINS NO ENCLOSURE OR PRECISE STATEMENT OF BASIS FOR BENINESE DOCTORS' DECISIONS. WE PROPOSE, THEREFORE TO ACKNOWLEDGE NOTE AND REQUEST COPY OF BENINESE MEDICAL TEAMS REPORT. THOMPSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CITIZEN PROTECTION, DIPLOMATIC NOTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978COTON000818
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780234-0511
Format: TEL
From: COTONOU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780697/aaaadfrc.tel
Line Count: 59
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c8963d92-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SCS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 COTONOU 872
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 aug 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2494629
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: W/W: LEONARD RICHARD BENNETT
TAGS: CASC, DM
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c8963d92-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014